

REMARKS

Claims were amended/canceled in order to conform to the current U.S. patent practice. It is believed that the amendments to the claims do not address any issues of patentability. No new matter had been added.

According to the Office Action, Applicant's claims are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims in a pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/556,010, which is commonly owned with the present application.

In response, in order to conclude the prosecution of the application and without conceding any statements or waiving any arguments in the Office Action, a terminal disclaimer is submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), thereby obviating the above-mentioned double-patenting rejection.

An earnest effort has been made to be fully responsive to the examiner's correspondence and advance the prosecution of this case. It is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any additional fees associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,

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